

Andrew Jackson to Andrew Jackson, Jr., October 11, 1834, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO ANDREW JACKSON, JR.

Washington, October 11, 1834.

My son, Thirty one days has elapsed since we left the Hermitage, sarah on a sick bed and the babe not recovered from its attack. I left them with great anxiety for their restoration to health, but I resigned them to the protection of that allwise providence who holds us all in the hollow of his hands, in confidence he would preserve them. Still I had your promise my son, that you would write me how they were, and I am now, even now, without one line from you. I am wearied with anxiety and disappointment. I have daily since my arrival here expected to receive a letter from you, and with each day, a disappointment. Major Donelson has recd. two letters from Stockly in neither of which is the health of sarah or the family named, and whether to infer from this, that they are still sick or have recovered, I am at a loss to conclude, and am still at a greater loss to account for your silence, after the charge I gave you, and your promise to write me.

Major Lewis leaves us on tomorrow for Nashville, has promised me to visit the Hermitage, deliver a little memento of my affection to sarah for the children which is named in the inclosed letter which you will please hand her with my blessing to her and the sweet little ones with a kiss. I have requested the major to make inquiry as to the health of all the family, to see the blood stock, and inquire as to the amt. of the cotton crop, that I may be prepared, if my means will permit, on the first of January next to pay Hill the ballance for the Land beyond what the cotton crop will produce. I hope your Ginn and press performs well and what cotton we raise will go to markett well handled, well ginned, and baled, each

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bale, averaging at least 500 lbs. The major will leave Tennessee for this place early in Novbr. by whom I shall hope to hear that all the family are in good health, and that you and sarah is about to leave the Hermitage for this place. I will be glad to be informed what Payton has done with the fillies and how they performed. . . .

P.S. when you engage your overseer recollect to bind him in your articles to rais plenty of potatoes and have the garden worked, and that the blooded stock shall be well attended to, and be sure to limit him about employing our servants in his domestic concerns, bind him plainly and particularly. I have no doubt but he is an honest man but we have been greatly imposed upon and suffered much inquiry.